

**REMARKS**

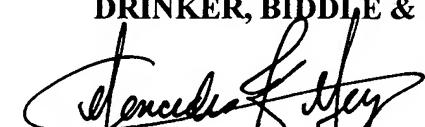
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the claims as amended in this Preliminary Amendment for examination purposes. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in at least the following locations: the original claims.

**CONCLUSION**

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0573. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

**DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP**

  
MERCEDES K. MEYER Reg. No. 44,939  
Ronald L. Grudziecki, Reg. No. 24,970  
Dated: January 20, 2006

Date: January 20, 2006

**CUSTOMER NO. 55694**  
**DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP**  
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20005-1209  
Tel: (202) 842-8800  
Fax: (202)-204-0289